REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were rejected for double patenting. That rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of those claims.

The new claims are directed to an implementation presented at page 23, lines 22-25 of the application. This implementation has become known as an intermediate bus converter. The approach allows for the use of a single isolation stage to step-down, for example, from 48 volts to 12 volts. That stage can be very efficient because no or minimal regulation is required. Regulation is then provided in plural regulation stages to separate outputs. Those regulation stages may be very simple and efficient because, from the low voltage such as 12 volts, no isolation is required.

The lack of regulation in the isolation stage described in the specification and recited in the claims is for normal operation. The claims are not limited with respect to potential control during system transients such as during turn on or turn off of the converter system. Such control may or may not be included.

The examiner's attention is directed to the previously cited Mweene et al. paper "A High Efficiency 1.5kW, 390-50 V Half-Bridge Converter Operated at 100% Duty-Ratio" and the Mweene thesis. As shown in Figure 1 of the Mweene paper, an isolation stage provided step down from 390V to 50V without regulation. The 50V was then stepped down in plural point of load converters to various output voltages. The point of load converters were not the subject of Mr. Mweene's work. However, given the high voltage level at their inputs, each would necessarily have included isolation. By contrast, the present invention is primarily directed to a converter system that receives an input on the order of the 50 volt level of Mweene. Rather than directly converting from the 50 volts to the required voltage in an isolation and regulating stage as in Mweene, the present invention first down converts though an isolating stage without regulation to a voltage that does not require isolation and then converts that voltage to the required voltage without further isolation.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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